

Claims

1. A frame control method for controlling a transport frame used for transmitting a data unit (TB) via a dedicated channel between network elements (2, 3; 10) of a communication system having different types of connections, comprising the steps of:

5 (a) encapsulating said data unit (TB) into said transport frame; and

10 (b) selecting a frame type coding of said transport frame in accordance with a connection type of said dedicated channel.

15 2. A frame control method according to claim 1, wherein said frame type coding defines specific control information fields of the transport frame and its bit number.

20 3. A frame control method according to claim 2, wherein said specific control information fields include a transport format indicator field the bit number of which is determined on the basis of the number of different transport format indicators allowed for said dedicated channel.

25 4. A frame control method according to claim 3, wherein the value of said transport format indicator field defines if and how a whole original data unit set is split into different data units to be transported via said dedicated channel.

30 5. A frame control method according to claim 3 or 4, wherein the value of said transport format indicator field defines the presence and/or bit number of another one of said specific control information fields.

35 6. A frame control method according to claim 5, wherein said other one of said specific control information fields

- 14 -

is a frame reliability information field which is provided when the value of said transport format indicator field indicates a high bit rate transmission.

5 7. A frame control method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said frame type coding is selected in a set-up phase of said dedicated channel based on corresponding set-up parameters of said dedicated channel.

10 8. A frame control method according to claim 1, wherein said frame type coding does not include a channel indicator field, if one transport connection is allocated to said dedicated channel.

15 9. A frame control method according to any one of the proceeding claims, wherein said frame control method is used in a user plane interface of a WCDMA system.

20 10. A frame control method according to claim 9, wherein said dedicated channel is an AAL 2 channel and said data unit is a user plane data unit.

25 11. A frame control apparatus for controlling a transport frame used for transmitting a data unit (TB) via a dedicated channel between network elements (2, 3; 10) of a communication system having different types of connections, comprising:

30 (a) means (12) for encapsulating said data unit (TB) into said transport frame; and

(b) means (13) for selecting a frame type coding of said transport frame in accordance with a connection type of said dedicated channel.

35 12. A frame control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said network elements (2, 3; 10) comprise a base station subsystem (2) and a radio network controller (3) of a mobile communication system (6).

add
A2